(d) and (e) No proposal for World Bank loan for these projects has been received by the Government.

Survey of IMF

4949. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to survey conducted by International Monetary Fund a higher saving rate is required in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage higher saving rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) According to the IMF Staff, the Domestic Savings Rate has shown an uneven upward trend over the past four decades, and according to projections, private savings are likely to rise only gradually over the years ahead. They noted, however, that policies that would boost the rate of increase of savings–particularly public savings –and facilitate its effecient allocation, would contribute towards achieving the Government's growth target of 7% over the medium-term. They also noted that higher growth would initiate a virtuous circle in which higher growth would lead to higher savings, and higher savings to higher growth, and so on.

(b) and (c) Even before the observations of the IMF staff, Govt. of India have emphasized the above aspects in various fora, e.g. in the latest Economic Survey and in the Budget Speech. In particular, the budget Speech of 28.2.97 clearly highlighted the importance of capital markets in boosting savings, while the Economic Survey indicated that recent reform efforts encouraged savings by expanding the savings and investment opportunities rather than by giving special incentives.

[Translation]

Beautification of Bihar

4950. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN DAS alias PAPPU YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided by the Union Government to the Government of Bihar for the beautification of the State during 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government of Bihar has utilized all the funds provided to them;

(c) whether some amount out of the allocation for 1996-97 is still unutilized; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No funds are provided by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for beautification of States.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Egnlish]

SAIL

4951. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Banks and Financial Institutious have provided over Rs. 5000 crores to Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) whether any irregularity has been committed while providing the said amount;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR):(a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) is presently availing working capital credit limits from a consortium of 16 member banks. In addition, banks have sanctioned term loan to part finance the expansion/modernisation of Bokaro steel plant. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the details relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

(b) RBI has reported that no irregularity has been noticed by it during post-sanction scrutiny of the credit limits under Credit Monitoring Arrangment.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

CAT

4952. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Public Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies of the Central Government which have been brought under the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring the cases of the State Government employees also under the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 (AT Act) provides for setting up of a State Administrative Tribunal by the Central Government on a requeat from the concerned State Government to cover the cases of its employees. At present State Administrative Tribunals under the AT Act have been set up in the States of Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal.